Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Certainly. That is why Government made it a working day.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE—PAYMENT FOR OCCUPATION

118. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will Government be pleased to state whether, as per the agreement between the Cochin Government and Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetty before his appointment as Diwan, he has to pay for the Government House he occupies?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* No.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know, Sir, whether in the contract any provision is made with regard to the housing accommodation?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Yes. He is entitled to a free house.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Is there such a provision in the contract that has been entered into by Government with Sir Shanmukham?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* In the order issued in connection with his appointment there is a provision that he is entitled to a free house.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Is the agreement confidential? Can't you keep the agreement on the Council Table?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The order issued to the Comptroller of Finance and Accounts is here. There is no written agreement. It was an arrangement made in the orders issued.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Will you please read it?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I will read if you want it. The relevant portion is: "His Highness the Maharaja has been pleased to fix the salary of Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetty, K.C.I.E., at Rs. 3,000 per mensem. He is also allowed free quarters and free use of all State cars and other conveniences."

Mr. K. Kochukunhan Kaimal *(Vadakkancheri):* Was this concession given to the previous Diwans also?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Yes.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Was not Mr. Herbert paying rent for the house he was occupying?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I don't exactly remember the terms of his agreement.

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Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* May I know when Sir Shanmukham Chetty began staying in the Diwan's House?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* When he became the Diwan of Cochin *(Laughter)*.

DIWAN'S DIARIES—SUBMISSION TO H. H. THE MAHARAJA

119. Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Will Government be pleased to state whether the Diwans of the State from Sir Albian Banerjee onwards were keeping diaries and forwarding them to the reigning Maharajas?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* No.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* May I know whether any of the former Diwans were submitting their diaries to His Highness the Maharaja?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Sir, I can just point out that the provisions regarding the submission of diaries of the officers of the State are contained in the Standing Orders of the Government wherein there is no mention made about the submission of the diaries by the Diwans. I presume that the Diwans have not been submitting diaries.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* As a matter of fact apart from any provisions in the Standing Orders, may I know whether anyone of the previous Diwans were submitting their diaries to the Maharaja?

Mr. President: It has been answered as "no."

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* In the question it has been put "Diwans of the State from Sir Albion Banerji onwards." My present question is whether any of the Diwans were submitting their diaries to His Highness?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The answer given is "no."

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* Probably you may be answering in such a way as to avoid answering in a direct fashion. Therefore I put this definite question, "whether any Diwans have submitted diaries"?

Mr. P. V. Raphael *(Joint Secretary to Government):* There is definite answer there. There is nothing ambiguous in it or vague in it *(Laughter)*.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur South):* It may be interpreted in the way that all the Diwans were not sending. I ask whether any Diwan has been sending?

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